

# LINE COPY



September/October 2000      Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department



Fire investigators Terry Hall, William Garrett, and Pete Michel sift through the rubble of the three-alarm five townhouse fire on Marshal Heights Court in the Dunn Loring area. Damage was estimated in excess of \$1 million.



Edward L. Stinnette

***“If all of the work and effort that went into Open House saves just one life, then we have had another successful Open House.”***

## From The Fire Chief . . .

In this edition, I want to recognize the incredible job we did for Fire Prevention Open House, and to discuss one of our new Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

This year's Open House celebration was a great success. I visited as many stations as possible and was very impressed with the time, effort, and innovation that went into many of the displays. The importance of this year's central theme, "Fire Drills: The Great Escape," was incorporated into many of the educational activities that took place at the stations. Depending on the station, crowds ranged from very large to small. However, the enthusiasm put forth by the members of the department was very positive and upbeat regardless of crowd size.

During my visits, I had the opportunity to speak with several members of the Board of Supervisors and their staff who were also visiting our stations. I think they were impressed with the planning and coordination required in making Open House a success. Their support and recognition of your work is very important if we are to continue to be successful in meeting the needs of our citizens. I was also able to talk about our community outreach programs and how we continue to explore opportunities

to serve our citizens in non-traditional roles.

If all of the work and effort that went into Open House saves just one life, then we have had another successful open house.

By the time you get this *Line Copy*, you will have received your copy of the new SOPs. First, thanks to everyone who spent many hours making this a reality. We have actually reduced the number so they now fit into one notebook. Some speculate the reason for one book is so it can grow into two books later. I sincerely hope not. If we continue to make decisions at the lowest possible level in the organization, our need for volumes of SOPs will be unnecessary.

There is one new SOP that was developed based on a recommendation from a station officer that I want to discuss in detail.

Post-Incident Analyses (PIA), SOP 01.09.17, provides a mechanism for sharing important lessons learned from emergency incidents that we manage. As long as I can remember, there have been firehouse discussions about how we can learn and benefit from all significant incidents handled by our department. Rotating shifts and the size of our community complicate and challenge our ability to share this information in

(Continued on page 11)

Edward L. Stinnette, *Fire Chief*  
Dan Schmidt, *Editor*  
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# From The Editor . . .



**W**e define public relations as a form of marketing communications which attempts to influence people. Public relations is an organized effort to present a positive image of your organization and its services.

The Public Information and Life Safety Education Section had the opportunity to put on two three-day career development classes that dealt with "public relations in the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department." The 40 plus individuals were exposed to a myriad of topics. However, most of the focus was centered on the media and mass communications.

The topic I want to cover is public relations in its purest form. How does it affect the average firefighter in the field? What does it mean to them personally?

"Grassroots public relations" is done at fire and rescue stations, incident scenes, driving up and down first due areas, and anywhere you can be seen and heard. Daily contact with citizens, whether it's on the phone, at a fire scene, an EMS call, or at the grocery store, provides us an opportunity to influence how and what people think of our department. It's here where people judge our performance and actions. It goes without saying that what we say and do should be in keeping with the mission of saving lives, helping people, and protecting property.

From my perspective, we do an outstanding job of showing our citizens that we care and will do everything possible to help them in their time of need. I feel good about the way we go about our business on a daily basis. The public relations you do daily goes much farther than the public relations that we practice from the Massey Building. However, we do have a part to play, but it's out in the field where the "rubber meets the road" and where it has its greatest impact. It's out in the field where citizens see you in their environment.

The Public Information and Life Safety Education personnel is proud to support you in reaching out to the community. All the various community outreach programs that already exist help show our value to the community and citizens. ♦

**Line Copy can be viewed on the Fairfax County  
Fire and Rescue Department Web Site.**

**Our Web Site address is:  
<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/fire>**

## Upcoming Events

### December

- 1 Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., A-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 4 Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., B-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 5 Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., A-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 6 PPE Cleaning Scheduled, A-Shift  
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Contact: Kim Klaren (703) 658-3728
- Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., B-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 7 Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., C-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 8 Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., B-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970
- 12 PPE Cleaning Scheduled, C-Shift  
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Contact: Kim Klaren (703) 658-3728
- 18 PPE Cleaning Scheduled, B-Shift  
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Contact: Kim Klaren (703) 658-3728
- Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., C-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970

## This Issue . . .

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# Underground Propane Tank Leak

*By Lieutenant Robert Paul Ruwe  
Station 26, B-Shift*

On May 5, at approximately 8 p.m., Engine 428 was dispatched to Juniper Lane to investigate “a loud boom and steam from the ground.” While enroute, supplemental information indicated that a piece of construction equipment had struck a propane tank, and the citizen could smell gas in the area. Engine 428 arrived and began to investigate. Initial reports from the equipment operator indicated that he had struck a small underground propane tank.

As the crew from Engine 428 continued their investigation, they determined that this “small propane tank” was at least a 250-500 gallon tank used to heat a swimming pool that was in the process of being demolished. The crew also determined the tank was actively leaking propane gas. A hazardous materials assignment was requested. Initial actions by Engine 428 included identifying a water supply, stretching a handline, and evacuating and isolating the area.

The Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT) performed an initial reconnaissance and air monitoring operation under the protection of a charged handline. Based upon the results of air monitoring, an assessment of the terrain and prevailing winds, the hot zone was modified. Apparatus was relocated in the event of a wind shift. The reconnaissance revealed the dome, shroud, and valve assembly had been crushed. The riser (the pipe and gauge/valve assembly) had been partially torn from the tank leaving a crescent-shaped hole in the top of the tank that caused a slow vapor leak.

Due to major damage to the riser and shroud, stopping the leak was not feasible. It was also difficult to determine the actual size of the tank and the propane level in the tank. After interviewing several neighbors who had similar pools installed during the same time period, it was discovered they all had 500-gallon tanks.

However, when the tank was removed the next morning, it was determined it was, in fact, a 1,000-gallon tank. There was also some discussion about whether there was still liquid propane in the tank. Some members believed that the catastrophic release of product may have caused the product to autorefrigerate.

When propane boils (vaporizes), it draws energy (heat) from the liquid. The resulting loss of heat then draws energy from the exterior of the tank via conduction. As the tank is cooled and isn't able to heat the liquid propane, the temperature of the liquid cools until it approaches its boiling point (minus 44 degrees Fahrenheit). Once the liquid nears its boiling point, the rate of vapor production decreases significantly.

The HMRT recommended that we contact a propane vendor for technical assistance, continue to monitor the area, and deploy hoselines to disperse the gas if hazardous levels were detected near any exposures.

Initial attempts to have a propane representative respond in a timely manner was ineffective. Based upon the stability of the situation, Command decided to de-escalate the incident, releasing all units except Engine 428, Rescue 426, Battalion 4, and FM14. The plan was to establish a rotation of companies throughout the night to monitor the leak.

Efforts to contact a propane representative finally paid off when we spoke with Mr. Ken Campbell from Campbell Propane. He concluded there probably was liquid propane in the tank, and we should expect to see the gas release continue well into the following morning.

With a propane industry representative enroute, it was decided to reassess the tank. We were unable to locate any of the features identified by Mr. Campbell. However, the liquid in the tank was boiling. Mr. Campbell arrived,

assessed the tank, and agreed there was no practical method of stopping the leak or recovering the product.

HMRT personnel presented an option that had been taught in an advanced spill and leak control class conducted in March. The idea was to slowly, and in a very controlled manner, run water into the tank to 'heat' the liquid, and to increase the boiling rate. This procedure also would be accompanied by constant air monitoring and the staffing of hoselines to disperse the vapor as needed. The purpose of this process was to speed up the inevitable release of propane, thus allowing citizens to return to their homes sooner. This proved to be the best option because the downhill and downwind side of the property was a large wooded swamp area, which provided space for the vapor to disperse naturally. The idea was discussed with Command and it was decided to use this option.

A garden hose was inserted in the opening of the tank, and water was introduced slowly. A dramatic increase in vapor production occurred. The rate of water application was increased, and the boiling rate also increased. Charged hoselines were used several times to disperse vapors when gas was detected. This immediately mitigated the problem. After about 15 minutes, vapor production decreased, however, gas was still detected near the opening. It was decided to completely fill the tank with water to ensure that all gas was removed. When the tank was full, a final monitoring of nearby properties was conducted to ensure a gas free area. Finding no hazards, all units were returned to service.

### Lessons Learned or Reinforced

Upon realizing or suspecting that a hazardous material is involved in an incident, first responders should follow basic guidelines:

- Isolate the area and deny entry, request appropriate resources, attempt to identify the product, and perform defensive actions.
- The Hazardous Materials Team is a valuable asset for the incident commander; the team brings specialized training, equipment, and resources to the incident and can provide the incident commander with several tactical options.
- Implement the Incident Management System early on to properly manage the incident. Identify an apparatus staging area quickly. This is especially important when access to the incident is limited.
- Use industry resources to provide technical information when appropriate.
- Constantly reassess the incident and update information.
- First class training leads to first class performance. ❖

### Upcoming Events

Promotional Ceremony  
9 a.m. – 11 a.m., Massey Building  
(703) 246-3421

19 Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., A-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970

20 Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., C-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3939

21 Child Seat Safety Checkpoint  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m., A-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Stone  
(703) 246-3963

27 PPE Cleaning Scheduled, B-Shift  
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Contact: Kim Klaren (703) 658-3728

Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., C-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970

28 Work Performance Evaluation  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., A-Shift  
Contact: Lieutenant Morrison  
(703) 246-3970

### January 2001

8 CPR Instructors Update  
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., A-Shift  
Contact: Captain Graling  
(703) 803-3850

9 CPR Instructors Update  
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., B-Shift  
Contact: Captain Graling  
(703) 803-3850

10 AED Instructors Update  
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., A-Shift  
Contact: Captain Graling  
(703) 803-3850

11 AED Instructors Update  
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., B-Shift  
Contact: Captain Graling  
(703) 803-3850

13 CPR Instructors Update  
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., B-Shift  
Contact: Captain Graling  
(703) 803-3850

# Herndon Court Apartments Live Fire Training Exercises

*By Captain I James T. Ghi and Captain II Scott Cullers  
Fire and Rescue Academy, Fire and Rescue Station 4*

**O**n October 8, 2000, the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department completed a 15-day live fire training exercise. During the course of the training, 365 Fairfax County firefighters and 57 firefighters from area jurisdictions practiced the basics of firefighting. Both seasoned and rookie firefighters "responded" as if it were "the real thing."

## **How it all began**

Several months ago Captain II Scott Cullers noticed that the Herndon Court Apartments were slated for demolition. Recognizing a great training opportunity, he contacted Ron Kruse, the project manager, to find out if any of the five buildings could be used for training. He already was assisting the public by offering the hot water heaters and refrigerators to a local group called LINK. LINK refurbishes appliances and other items for needy residents. Mr. Kruse strongly supported the proposed training opportunity. At this point, Captain II Cullers reached out to Captain I James Ghi at the Fire and Rescue Academy for coordination and to create a plan. The structures were inspected and it was decided that they would be suitable for training.

## **Initiating the training plan**

Captain Cullers and Captain Ghi met to discuss and to formulate a training plan. Captain Cullers was to be the liaison with the Town of Herndon, while Captain Ghi compiled the necessary paperwork to meet the requirements of the Fire and Rescue Department and NFPA 1403. Following several more meetings which included Captain Cullers, Captain Ghi, and Ron Kruse, a timetable for training was established along with equipment and personnel requirements. These

items were presented to the senior operations staff for final approval. Once approved by operations, units were selected for training dates. Units from surrounding jurisdictions who participated included: Arlington County, Alexandria City, Fort Belvoir, Fairfax City, and Loudoun County.

## **Conducting the exercises**

Again, realizing the training potential, both Captain Cullers and Captain Ghi decided the evolutions would be response-based, causing units to respond to an incident instead of already being pre-deployed at the fire building. Due to the hydrants being opposite of the apartments, a portion of Center Street needed to be closed. This required cooperation between the Town of Herndon, the Fairfax Connector Bus Service, and the local citizens. Several meetings between Fire and Rescue Department personnel and the Town of Herndon took place prior to final approval by the town manager and mayor.

The exercises were being conducted on most days from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. This short training window was primarily due to required SCBA training and the limits set by the town. Captain Cullers and Captain Ghi, along with Carol Laymon and John Walser, were at the drill site about five hours before the scheduled start time to prepare the apartments. The preparation included, but was not limited to, removing all locking devices and air conditioners, hot water heaters, and refrigerators. In addition, all "sets" were made in advance to expedite the evolutions. The goal was to conduct three evolutions per session. In addition to the above scenarios, fire investigators furnished five apartments to train fire investigators in fire investigations. The furnished apartments were burned; using various

methods, and scheduling various units to extinguish the fires. On the following day, investigators from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms began to determine how the fire started.

During each evolution, units responded from various dispatch locations. Upon arrival, units had to determine what type of hose to lay for water supply, whether to pass or to establish command, perform operational build-up, employ various tactics to mitigate the incident and perform the necessary overhaul. An incident critique was held after every evolution to discuss the incident and what went well and what needed improvement.

At the conclusion of the training, 365 Fairfax County career firefighters from every station participated in 53 evolutions in a 15-day period. Fairfax County volunteers and firefighters from the surrounding jurisdictions also participated in the training. In total, 422 firefighters of all ranks worked together to improve old skills and learn new ones. ❖

## Upcoming Events

20 EEO Training  
(Captain I & Lieutenant),  
Volunteer & Make-up Date  
See General Order  
Contact: Captain Sweatt  
(703) 246-3960

AED Instructors Update  
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., B-Shift  
Contact: Captain Graling  
(703) 803-3850

Recruitment CPAT Test  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Contact: Recruitment  
(703) 246-3939



*A unique training opportunity gave new officers the opportunity to practice critical lifesaving decisions in a real, but controlled environment. Other training such as incident management, accountability tracking, thermal imaging, investigations, and aerial ladder placement was taught and practiced. Other fire and rescue departments that participated in the exercise over the two week period included: Loudoun County, Arlington County, Alexandria City, Prince William County, and Fort Belvoir (left and above).*



## Hot Shots



First arriving units at 6014 Sherborn Lane reported heavy fire showing through the roof. Two occupants were awakened by a smoke alarm and escaped the residence unharmed. Damage was in excess of \$200,000.



An electrical malfunction in the kitchen refrigerator caused a fire that resulted in \$200,000 damage. One elderly adult female escaped the blaze by crawling out of a bedroom window at 7816 Gingerbread Lane in the Fairfax Station area.



One minor injury resulted from this four vehicle pile up on Route 66 at Lee Highway. Photo by Sheldon Levi.



Arriving units found smoke and fire coming from several windows on the first and second floors of this home located at 1303 Bayshire Lane in the Herndon area. While searching for occupants and fighting the fire, firefighters found four victims, two adults and two children. Fairfax County Police Department determined the victims died as a result of a murder-suicide.



**Three alarm fire . . .** one adult female was transported for smoke inhalation and a total of 18 occupants were displaced by a fire that damaged five townhouses on Marshal Heights Court in the Dunn Loring area. Damage was estimated at over \$1 million.



# Looking Forward To A Fire Safe Holiday Season

**E**very year, we respond to tragic incidents where people suffer injuries, burns, and even death due to carelessness with holiday decorations. Trees, lights, ornaments, and fireplaces produce extra hazards in homes at

a time when hectic activity distracts attention from fire safety.

Here are some safety tips that you can pass on to ensure that we will not make unplanned visits this holiday season.



*The Marshal Heights Court fire was determined to be accidental, electrical. Photo by Deputy Chief Jeffrey B. Coffman.*



*Apparatus refitting for the new Scott air packs was completed ahead of schedule. The team completed installation at Fire and Rescue Station 34.*

- Ensure natural trees are fresh. Fresh needles won't break when you bend them. Once you get a fresh tree home, cut off one to two inches of the trunk and place it in a stable holder. Keep the holder full of water and the tree away from sources of heat to keep your tree from drying out.

- Use only flame retardant decorations. Check the wiring on all electrical decorations before putting them up. Avoid using extension cords to run electrical decorations. Make sure electrical decorations are labeled as laboratory tested.

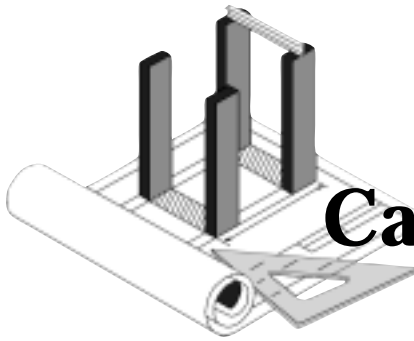
- Don't use real candles near combustible decorations. Never leave lit candles unattended.

- Don't use the fireplace as a disposal site for wrapping paper, boxes, or holiday trees. These items should be disposed of properly with normal trash.

- Keep an extra eye on friends and family members who smoke. Make sure that ashes and lit cigarettes don't fall onto chairs, gifts, or wrapping paper. Don't empty ashtrays into the trash.

- Take a minute to ensure all home fire safety devices are prepared for the holidays. Clean and test your smoke detector and ensure portable fire extinguishers are pressurized and not blocked by holiday packages.

Have a happy and safe holiday season! ♦



# Fire and Rescue Capital Improvement Projects

**Burke, Station 14 (9501 Old Burke Lake Road):** Construction of a 26,000 square foot volunteer fire and rescue station and community hall began December 1999. Anticipated move-in date for the fire station is February 2001. The project is approximately 60 percent complete.

**North Point, Station 39 (1117 Reston Avenue):** Construction of a new 14,000 square foot fire and rescue station began January 2000. Anticipated completion date is January 2001. The station is approximately 69 percent complete.

**West Springfield, Station 27 (6140 Rolling Road):** Renovation of the station's interior, and the addition of a new bay and enlarged women's bunk area is part of the West Springfield Government Center addition/renovation project. Anticipate the notice to proceed in January 2001, with completion in January 2003.

**Station Safety Improvements:** Installation of diesel exhaust removal systems in county stations, as well as the installation of full sprinkler systems in two stations continues. The project is divided into three phases, with Phase I completed, Phase II under construction and Phase III in the design stage.

**Newington Apparatus Garage (6900 Newington Road):** Construction of a 19,000 square foot apparatus shop and apparatus storage facility has been approved. Anticipated construction date is December 2000 with completion in January 2002.

**West Ox Apparatus Garage (4620 West Ox Road):** Construction of a 19,000 square foot apparatus shop and apparatus storage facility has been approved. Construction date to be determined.

**Oakton, Station 34 (10511 Rosehaven Street):** Construction of 1,000 square foot storage room addition has been approved. Construction is slated to begin December 2000, with a completion date of May 2001.

**Crosspointe Station Site (Hampton Road and Ox Road):** The selection process is complete, with the purchase of site currently under negotiation. A 14,000 square foot fire and rescue station will be constructed on this site. A 2232 Public Hearing will be held summer 2001.

**Diesel Exhaust Removal Systems (volunteer-owned stations):** Installation of diesel exhaust removal systems has been funded for five volunteer-owned stations in FY2001.



*North Point Fire and Rescue Station #39*

(Continued from page 2)

a timely manner. Prior attempts to put together a process to share significant incident information have been marginally successful. The PIA SOP establishes guidelines and a time requirement for the dissemination of information following a critique. This SOP coupled with today's technology gives us the opportunity to learn from the actions of others.

Hopefully, this SOP will prompt us to spend time critiquing not only those incidents that require a (PIA), but also those incidents referred to as "routine." These critiques, whether formal or informal, will help us ensure that we are making decisions and operating as safely as possible.

Another very important benefit to the PIA's is the identification of "near misses." It will give us an opportunity to take corrective action before a tragic event occurs. "Near misses" happen everyday throughout the fire service community. Unlike the high profile tragic events that receive a lot of media attention and are thoroughly investigated, these "near misses" often go unreported. We should not think we are immune to these "near misses," and I'm sure many of you have seen or heard of incidents that could be classified as "near misses." I've heard comments such as "boy we were lucky today" or "someone was looking after us today." We need to learn from these incidents and prevent "near misses"

from becoming tragic events. A post incident analysis affords us an opportunity to learn from our experiences. Sharing this information will help avoid potential tragedy. If you are charged with preparing a PIA, remember we are not fixing blame, but rather using this valuable experience to help train better incident commanders. ♦

## Top 10 Activity Report

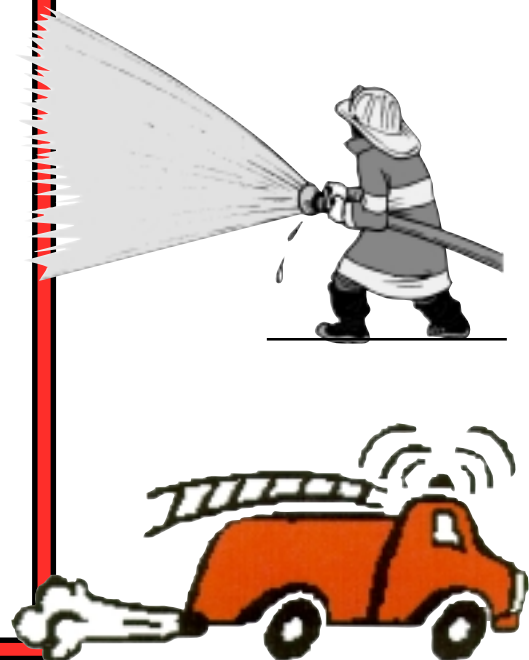
### August - September 2000

Ambulance		Engine Company		Rescue Squad	
Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls
A 413	408	E 410	521	R 418	253
A 410	358	E 429	518	R 401	247
A 408	356	E 408	506	R 421	241
A 409	346	E 401	496	R 426	241
A 430	341	E 409	486	R 411	186
A 411	322	E 421	474	R 414	164
A 414	310	E 404	452	R 419	149
A 436	278	E 422	450		
A 428	271	E 413	447		
A 434	270	E 411	443		

Medic		Battalion Chiefs & EMS Captains		Ladder Company	
Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls
M 418	548	EMS 4	288	T 425	315
M 425	483	EMS 5	281	T 429	260
M 422	448	EMS 6	249	T 410	230
M 408	433	EMS 3	216	T 408	210
M 429	431	EMS 1	210	T 422	188
M 410	418	EMS 2	190	T 436	169
M 426	404	BC 05	157	T 430	150
M 401	402	BC 04	140	T 401	148
M 421	380	BC 06	122	T 405	136
M 417	375	BC 02	109	T 411	131

\*Total includes rescue and engine calls. Unit activity is compiled from the event history file. A unit must be dispatched to a call to be included in an event history file. A unit add-on is not considered a dispatch. Mutual aid dispatches are included in the activity report.





# Large Loss Fire Investigations

**Date:** 08/02/00 **Box:** 1411 **Address:** 5203 Richardson Drive **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Undetermined **Value:** \$174,600 **Loss:** \$65,000 **Status:** Open

**Date:** 08/07/00 **Box:** 0944 **Address:** 2135 Woodland Lane **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$150,000 **Loss:** \$50,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 08/08/00 **Box:** 0944 **Address:** 7963 Richmond Highway **Type:** Apartment  
**Cause:** Undetermined **Value:** \$549,498 **Loss:** \$95,000 **Status:** Open

**Date:** 08/11/00 **Box:** 1700 **Address:** 14124 Lee Highway **Type:** Commercial  
**Cause:** Accidental-Vehicle Struck Fuel Pump **Value:** \$714,000 **Loss:** \$114,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 08/12/00 **Box:** 0504 **Address:** 6313 Cottonwood Drive **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$120,000 **Loss:** \$60,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 08/19/00 **Box:** 0944 **Address:** 8121 Richmond Highway **Type:** Commercial  
**Cause:** Undetermined **Value:** \$730,000 **Loss:** \$75,000 **Status:** Open

**Date:** 08/29/00 **Box:** 0507 **Address:** 6508 Bowie Drive **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$150,000 **Loss:** \$50,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 08/31/00 **Box:** 0112 **Address:** 1224 Mottrom Drive **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$4,000,000 **Loss:** \$100,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 09/04/00 **Box:** 2433 **Address:** 7914 Central Park Court **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$150,000 **Loss:** \$60,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 09/04/00 **Box:** 1409 **Address:** 9103 Andromeda Drive **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Combustibles **Value:** \$190,000 **Loss:** \$75,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 09/05/00 **Box:** 0500 **Address:** 6708 Beulah Street **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Candle **Value:** \$115,000 **Loss:** \$60,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 09/07/00 **Box:** 0811 **Address:** 4414 Weyburn Drive **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Hot Water Heater **Value:** \$166,725 **Loss:** \$80,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 09/14/00 **Box:** 3114 **Address:** 2702 Robaleed Way **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Undetermined **Value:** \$80,000 **Loss:** \$80,000 **Status:** Closed

**Date:** 09/15/00 **Box:** 1142 **Address:** 6006 Dewey Drive **Type:** House  
**Cause:** Accidental-Kitchen Fire **Value:** \$250,000 **Loss:** \$100,000 **Status:** Closed

**FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS**

## Arrests/Petitions

**Date:** 06/20/00 **Box:** 2103 **Address:** 12762 Misty Creek Lane **Type:** Outside

**Narrative:** Three defendants were charged with setting an outside fire capable of spreading. Each defendant received 40 hours community service.

**Date:** 06/25/00 **Box:** 0411 **Address:** 1554 Brownsville Drive **Type:** House

**Narrative:** Seven defendants were charged with setting fire capable of spreading. Each defendant must pay restitution to the victim and complete 40 hours of community service.

**Date:** 07/07/00 **Box:** 2304 **Address:** 4304 Braeburn Drive **Type:** House

**Narrative:** One defendant was charged with setting an outside fire capable of spreading. The defendant must complete 40 hours community service within 60 days.

**Date:** 07/05/00 **Box:** 1507 **Address:** 4151 Chantilly Lace Court **Type:** Commercial

**Narrative:** Two defendants were charged with setting fire to a commercial structure. Each defendant must complete 40 hours community service and attend the Fire Stop Program.

**Date:** 07/10/00 **Box:** 2317 **Address:** 3619 Lido Place **Type:** Fireworks

**Narrative:** Fire investigators charged three juveniles with possession of illegal fireworks. The defendants pled guilty and received 40 hours community service.

**Date:** 07/20/00 **Box:** 3504 **Address:** 8301 Kings Ridge Court **Type:** Outside

**Narrative:** Four defendants were charged with setting an outside fire capable of spreading. Three other defendants were charged with possession of illegal fireworks. Each defendant must raise \$50 and donate it to a charity.

**Date:** 08/22/00 **Box:** 0900 **Address:** 2501 Parkers Lane **Type:** Hospital

**Narrative:** Fire investigators charged a 35-year-old female with burning a structure. A trial date is pending.

**Date:** 09/26/00 **Box:** 3126 **Address:** 3225 Autumn Hill Court **Type:** Outside

**Narrative:** Fire investigators charged two juveniles with setting an outside fire. Each defendant pled guilty and must complete 50 hours of community service and attend the Fire Stoppers Program.

**Date:** 09/30/00 **Box:** 1500 **Address:** 14141 Parke Long Court **Type:** Outside

**Narrative:** Fire Investigators charged one juvenile with setting an outside fire. The defendant pled guilty and must complete 40 hours of community service and attend the Fire Stoppers Program.

**FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS**

## ***Retirements***

Technician James L. Fisher  
July 21, 1975 – September 8, 2000

Lieutenant Steven R. Basnett  
April 29, 1974 – September 22, 2000

Lieutenant Richard L. Burton  
July 21, 1975 - October 6, 2000

Lieutenant Don M. Sheads  
June 28, 1971 - October 20, 2000

Captain I Jackie E. Smith  
May 30, 1972 – September 29, 2000

Captain I David M. Hamrick  
August 18, 1975 – October 3, 2000

## ***New Hires***

Steven Dennis  
William Padgett  
Lin Quitmeyer



## ***Anniversaries***

### ***25 Years***

Lieutenant Steven J. Blount  
Captain II James M. Chinn  
Master Technician Rodney L. Hodgson  
Captain I Gerald Jaskulski

### ***20 Years***

Firefighter Kenneth F. Anderson  
Captain I David W. Brooks  
Captain I Leo B. Burt  
Master Technician Mark R. Crawford  
Technician Michael A. Doran  
Lieutenant Kevin A. Edmondson  
Captain II Barry W. Jacobs  
Captain I Lynn R. Jadot  
Master Technician Robert A. Joy  
Technician George E. Lewis  
Captain II William D. MacKay  
Captain I Roger T. McGehee  
Firefighter Scott M. McHenry  
Master Technician James M. Moore  
Technician Kenneth E. Neumann  
Lieutenant John S. Price  
Captain II Robert W. Rhoads  
Technician Alonzo E. Robinson  
Lieutenant John H. Sherer  
Firefighter John M. Smith  
Technician Charles A. Williams  
Captain II Paul T. Williams

### ***15 Years***

Lieutenant Oscar L. Beasley  
Lieutenant David E. Dicola  
Technician Melvin M. Dunn  
Master Technician George C. Hood  
Master Technician Richard D. Hoyle  
Technician Carl E. Jones  
Master Technician Randal A. Leatherman  
Technician Chris M. Matsos  
Master Technician Sean J. O'Connor  
Technician Carlton L. Payne  
Lieutenant Jerome I. Williams  
Technician Rodney H. Woodward

### ***10 Years***

Jane A. Wright, Secretary I



8243 Clifton Farm Court  
Alexandria, Virginia 22306

Fire Chief Edward Stinnette  
Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department  
4100 Chain Bridge Road  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Dear Sir:

It is with deep gratitude and appreciation that I write this letter, which is long overdue!

I am a widow and a senior citizen and I live alone. The smoke detectors in my house were not working and I was extremely concerned.

I contacted the Fire Department – I found the phone number from the Mount Vernon Gazette.

I want to truly congratulate you on the fine shift and the high caliber personnel that were on duty at Station/Shift 9A, Ambulance 409, on the afternoon of April 6, 2000. Their names are: Mark Crawford (Station 9, A-Shift), Jared Groff (Station 24, A-Shift), and Marla Meletis (NVCC student).

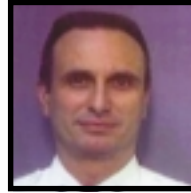
It was truly very heartwarming to see such a caring, dedicated, and a highly responsible team who so very diligently did their job and did it well, despite the fact they were called away twice to handle other emergencies, but they faithfully returned (as they promised) and finished the job. I feel safe now!

I wanted you to be aware of their performance; they deserve to be recognized!

Again, I want to thank you and congratulate you for representing and protecting us with the very best in safety and protection.

Very Sincerely,  
Mrs. Grace Duffy

# Taking Up



**Captain I  
David Michael Hamrick**

**Entry Date:** August 18, 1975

**Retirement Date:** October 3, 2000

**Assignments:** Stations 18, 25, 9, 32, and 8

**Likes about the Fire Department:** The opportunity to help people, the high activity level, and the life style the Fire and Rescue Department creates for each of us, both inside and outside of the department.

**Will miss about the Fire Department:** After 25 years of riding on EMS units most people are surprised that I still speak in complete sentences. Strangely enough, I still miss seeing patients. However, I will miss the relationships I've built over the years the most.

**Plans for the future:** Only God knows, I won't have to do anything. I may be a gentleman farmer, or I could build braces if the patent goes through. I've committed my works to the Lord; my ways will be established.

**Words of wisdom:** To the medic, take care of your patient; to the unit officer, take care of your crew; to the shift leader, take care of your shift. If you take care of others, they will take care of you.

**What got you interested in the fire service?** A fellow firefighter.

**Who or what made an influence in your career?** My mentor was David Collins. He successfully raised three boys while having a successful career. He managed both family and career very well.

**Better figure out what  
business you are in, or soon  
you will be out of business.**



## Station Profile

### Centreville Fire and Rescue Station #17

**Captain II**  
**Dallas D. Phillips**  
Station Commander



**Volunteer Chief**  
**Pete Kirby**

**Station constructed:** Original building constructed in 1951. Station remodeled in 1995.

**Station specialty:** Engine and medic.

**Square miles in first due area:** 16.7

**Specific hazardous/target areas:** Upper Occoquan Treatment Plant, multiplex theater, gas pipeline booster and odorant additive station, and Interstate 66.

**Total calls in 1999:** 3,351

**Equipment assigned to station:** engine, pumper, medic, brush truck, canteen, car, and two medic reserves.

**Station personnel:** **A-Shift:** Captain I Mark G. Brennan, Lieutenant Dale R. Moxley, Lieutenant Kenneth P. Winkelvoss, Master Technician James M. Breslin, Master Technician Phillip M. Duckwitz, Technician Timothy E. Fowler, and Firefighter Samuel L. Porter. **B-Shift:** Captain II Dallas D. Phillips, Lieutenant David E. Dicola, Lieutenant Keith M. Ludeman, Technician Karrie L. Boswell, Technician David E. Myers, Technician John M. Stetter, Firefighter Mark E. Fiddler, and Firefighter Raymond W. Tricarico. **C-Shift:** Captain I William M. Foxwell, Lieutenant Robynn M. Berquist, Lieutenant Michael White, Technician Joseph K. Cox, Firefighter Richard A. Mungo, and Firefighter Gary S. Reuter.

**Volunteer President:** Patricia M. Blankenship

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## Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department

Attn: Public Information and Life Safety Education Section  
4100 Chain Bridge Road  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

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